Non-Deposit of PF Fund under TTCI

3636. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of tea gradens under the Tea Trading Corporation of India have failed to deposit Provident Fund money realised from the workers ;

(b) if so, gardenwise amount of such money ; and

(c) the reasons for such failures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Information regarding Provident Fund-money of the tea garden workers not deposited by the Tea Trading Corporation of India is as under:

Amount (*Rs. in lakhs*)

S.No.	Garden	Period	Amount
1.	Pashok Tea Estate	January, 1993 to March, 1994	16.57
2.	Vah-Tukvar Tea Estate.	February, 1993 to March, 1994.	12.38
3.	Potong Tea Estate	January, 1993 to March, 1994	6.45
4.	Looksan tea Estate	September, 1993 to March, 1994	7.69
5.	Pathini Tea Estate	May, 1992 to March, 1994	33.94

(c) Outstandings on a account of Provident Fund dues etc. have accumulated due to deficit in the working of the Gardens Division of the Corporation. The Tea Trading Corporation of India are taking steps for clearance of all outstanding payments in phases during the next one year or so.

Export of Mushroom

3637. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production cost of mushroom is Rs. 8/9 per kilo.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the price of processed mushroom varies between Rs. 60 to 70 in international market ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have examined the economic viability of processing and export of mushroom ; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COM-